5 h / Sm/1

a water-soluble superabsorbent polymer precursor; optionally a viscosity modifying agent; and a binder selected from a group consisting of polyester, urethane,

epoxy, latex and mixtures thereof.

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8. (Amended) A water-resistant coating comprising a superabsorbent water-soluble polymer, wherein the superabsorbent polymer is obtained as an aqueous solution of a polymer precursor and a binder and is cured to form a superabsorbent polymer.

Please cancel claims 16-18 without prejudice.